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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Kolesnick et al.

FILED: July 17, 2000

SERIAL NO.: 09/554,980

FOR: Basic Fibroblast Growth Factor Treatment of Sepsis

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents **BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT** Washington, D.C. 20231

ART UNIT: 1647

EXAMINER:

Hamud, F.

DOCKET:

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 13, 2002 please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (thrice amended) A method of treating endotoxic shock in an animal comprising inhibiting the generation of ceramide from sphingomyelin, comprising the step of: